

SOVIET APPROVES LENINE'S POLICY

Many Assent Grudgingly,
Opposing His Shift to
Capitalistic Methods.

FEAR TRUST DICTATION

U. S. Delegate Reports
Workers Seek to Over-
throw Capitalism.

PREMIER BLAMES UNIONS

Resolution Adopted Thanking
Dr. Nansen and American
Relief Bodies.

Moscow, Dec. 24 (Associated Press).—The ninth All Russian Soviet Congress to-day approved of the new Soviet economic policy as outlined before that gathering by Premier Nikolai Lenin. This approval was given by accepting Premier Lenin's address, which was presented as the report of the Council of Commissars on the domestic and foreign policies of the Soviet Government. In his address Lenin sharply criticized the labor unions, which he said desired to direct industries without showing the necessary ability.

Although the Congress accepted the new policy, this acceptance was given grudgingly by a large faction of the Communists who dislike the Government's change to capitalistic methods. One reason why the Communists accepted it at all, it was pointed out in some quarters, was because they had no alternative plan to offer. Although these delegates detest the terms "money," "capitalism" and "trusts," they grudgingly accepted their leaders' apologies that the economic change was only temporary and necessary for the ultimate construction of a real Communist government.

Confidence is not general among the Communists in the Supreme Economic Council. Their prejudice appears to be directed against it rather than against the Government's general policy. M. Bogdanoff, chairman of the Economic Council, and Leonid Krasine, the Soviet trade representative, apparently are not generally popular with the Communist masses; and failure to interest foreign seekers of concessions in leases and to get the industries going is charged against them. Moreover, they are regarded in labor circles as being indifferent to the workmen's interests.

There is much clamor that trusts, whether under the Russian Government or under the management of foreigners,

French Women Reds Would Fight for Power

MARSEILLES, France, Dec. 26 (Associated Press).—An unexpected feature of the first national convention of the French Communist party, in session here, developed to-day when the women delegates voiced opposition to the anti-militarist campaign. In a speech to the convention, Mme. Colliard declared: "I don't want any anti-militarism. I am in favor of militarism, which, as in Russia, will defend the revolution. We accept violence when it will gain power for us." Mme. Colliard and other women delegates demanded that women be given a more prominent place on the Communist program.

will work hardships to the workmen. Furthermore, the laborers are discontented on account of their claim that Soviet nationalization has not wiped out the bourgeoisie.

Predicts Revolution in U. S.

M. Kallenine, the elected chairman, and his executive committee of thirty-two members, including Premier Lenin and Leon Trotsky, the War Minister, occupied seats of honor around a red table.

Among the foreign Communists was J. Carr, representing America. During his speech to the Congress Carr said: "I do not bring greetings from the American Government but from millions of oppressed people in America; not from the politicians now conferring at Washington behind locked doors as to how they can down Soviet Russia. I bring greetings from millions who are walking the street with nowhere to sleep and nothing to eat."

Carr declared the American workmen were secretly organizing and would eventually overthrow capitalism and establish a workmen's government. In his address to the Congress Lenin decried the Soviet Government's economic policy and mercilessly attacked its critics, especially the trade union men, who, he declared, desired to continue to manage the industries. He said men who had demonstrated no ability to manage industries were demanding to be retained in control. He challenged them to show any qualifications to buy supplies and keep factories going rather than to write resolutions.

"Learning to trade," he continued, "is difficult. It is not like oratory, but we have to learn it." He declared he hated dealing with traders who demanded 100 per cent. profit, but said it must be done. Raw materials must be collected and bought at any cost from sharp traders and business must be revived. But, he added, it was only by struggling ten or fifteen years with sharp traders that the Communist workmen would learn how to trade.

Premier Lenin said the Cheka, the Soviet secret service, hereafter would confine itself to political affairs and would be greatly limited in scope as its necessity decreased with the firm establishment of Soviet power. He declared Russia's position among the nations had become thoroughly established despite the failure of the great Powers to recognize the Soviet regime. The foreign capitalists, he asserted, had demonstrated their willingness to trade with Russia. He was extremely optimistic over the trade outlook and said the policy of uniting the peasants and workmen more closely through free domestic trade had been highly successful. The brief time this arrangement had been in force showed that the Government was on the right track toward the reestablishment of economic solidarity.

In announcing Russia's acceptance of the American Relief Administration's proposal to give Russia \$20,000,000 worth of grain on condition that Russia buy \$10,000,000 more in America Lenin estimated that this total of \$30,000,000 would buy about 20,000,000 poods of

grain. (This is approximately 18,000,000 bushels.)

The Soviet Premier said this would greatly help the famine situation in the Volga district, but declared the Soviet Government must continue to exert every effort to collect its full grain levy. He said it would require 18,000,000 poods more from abroad to bring the total average before next harvest to 215,000,000 poods, which was 15,000,000 poods below the minimum necessary to carry Russia through the famine crisis.

The Congress endorsed a resolution of thanks to Dr. Fridtjof Nansen and the American Relief Administration for recent famine relief in Russia. The resolution especially mentioned the Relief Administration as having helped more than any other foreign organization.

Delegate Semashko presented an alarming report of the typhus epidemic, which he described as being so bad on the railways that half of the soldiers traveling from place to place had contracted the disease. He said dozens of bodies, including many children, were being picked up daily at congested railway centers.

The sessions of Congress were held in the Moscow Opera House, which was crowded with 1,352 delegates and 200 other party leaders and spectators, including Major Lonsker, representing the American Relief Administration, and many other foreigners. The main floor of the theater was entirely filled with delegates, mostly workmen dressed in fur, who kept on their fur caps throughout the proceedings, presenting the appearance of a gathering of frontiersmen, contrasting with the brilliantly lighted and gold decorated auditorium.

FIVE OVERCOME BY GAS IN ATLANTIC CITY HOME

Prompt Aid Prevents Fatal
Results From Accident.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.
ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 26.—Five persons, one a baby, were overcome accidentally by gas to-day in a house at 4 North Missouri avenue, but were revived later at the City Hospital. The victims were Mrs. Clark, 60, Catherine Clark, 33; Nora Clark, 23; William Clark, 25, and Betty Dickinson, 3. When neighbors smelled a policeman was called, who smashed open the door and found all five unconscious in their chairs and the burner of a gas heater turned on. Mrs. Clark and one other member of the family became unconscious first. The others started to their assistance but were overcome.

OHIO RIVER IS RISING STEADILY; NOW 55 FEET

Larger Tributaries All Are
Reported Receding.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 26.—Continuing to rise at the rate of approximately one-tenth of a foot every two hours, the Ohio River at Cincinnati registered 55 feet at 7 o'clock to-night.

Indications were, according to river men, that the rise would continue at a diminishing rate until a crest of about 56 feet is reached. Reports from river points indicated that all the larger tributaries were receding, while the main stream continued to rise slowly.

GIRL MOVIE FAN ENDS LIFE.

Had Been Refused Permission to
See Film Second Time.

BUFFALO, Dec. 26.—Matilda Battaglia, 17, shot herself dead this afternoon when her parents refused her permission to go to a movie show.

She had attended the show last night and wished to go again with girl chums.

DEBS TELLS PRESIDENT VIEWS ARE UNCHANGED

Continued from First Page.

of my release by commutation," he said, "it was coupled with the request of Attorney-General Daugherty that I come to Washington to meet him and President Harding. The warden furnished me with a railroad ticket to the capital city for that purpose."

Debs explained that it was customary upon the release of prisoners for the authorities to give him his transportation to his home or the place from which he was sentenced, as he preferred, but that he was given no choice by the warden at Atlanta.

In ordinary circumstances, he said, he would have gone home, as arrangements had been made for him to return to his home and a demonstration of welcome was scheduled for him at Terre Haute, but his plans were set aside because of the request of the Attorney-General.

Release Unconditional.

"I was courteously received by the Attorney-General," he continued, "and devoted to him my interest in and my devotion to my fellow prisoners who were no less guilty than I and who still remain in prison."

By fellow prisoners, he explained, he meant both "political offenders and prisoners in general." At the White House," he said, "I was received very cordially by President Harding, with whom I exchanged opinions and points of view so that he might perfectly understand my attitude in reference to my future activities. During the visit I took occasion to express my appreciation of the consideration."

At both the offices of the Attorney-General and the President I was assured that my release was unconditional and that, of course, I would not be expected to depart from my principles, convictions and idealism."

Replying to a question as to his citizenship status, Debs declared his citizenship was "non est." He said he was now not a citizen of the United States, as the commutation does not restore the rights of citizenship, but a citizen of the world.

"Where my star was," he exclaimed, "behind my sun, it is not strange that a man should lose his citizenship in a system where he is branded as a felon. There is an admirable consistency about that. But a convict for his principles is always a citizen in good standing. He is a citizen by his own inherent, God given integrity. The only man who loses his citizenship is the man who renounces his principles and abdicates his manhood."

Out of Touch Three Years.

Asked about his future activities Mr. Debs declared he would have to adjust himself before making definite plans and that he "would take his stand later."

At Atlanta, he continued, he was completely out of touch with developments in the Socialist world because he was cut off by the Government from all correspondence with it. All so-called liberal papers and magazines, he asserted, were denied him up until three weeks before his release, although he was permitted the "orthodox, capitalistic newspapers."

Even clippings of local happenings in his home town sent him by his wife, he declared, were taken from his letters, torn into bits and thrown into the trash by the prison authorities.

Debs expressed himself feelingly of his fellow prisoners at Atlanta. He was one of them, he said, and would accept no favors nor privileges not accorded the others, and when he left, he declared, he left 2,500 prisoners in tears and cheers.

His commutation, Debs declared, was "an obligation" to the freedom of "every political prisoner," the Socialist leader

describing himself as the "arch enemy of prisons."

Debs stated it was his intention to leave Washington for his home in Terre Haute as soon as possible. He had some personal engagements here to-day, he said, which included a visit from Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, but if possible he would leave to-night, otherwise to-morrow.

Debs was dressed in a brown suit, dark felt hat, dark overcoat and black shoes, which it was said by his friends were issued to him by the Atlanta prison authorities. After breakfast he mentioned that perhaps he had better change his collar and one of the constantly increasing army of newspaper men dashed out and returned with a box of collars which was presented to him.

Debs's brother, Theodore, who came to Washington with him, accompanied him to the Department of Justice, where he was immediately ushered into the office of Mr. Daugherty.

WHISKY IN CHURCH WALL MAY HALT SALE

Bidding for Old Structure Is
Bound to Be Lively.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.
COURT ST. BLUFFS, Dec. 26.—Because a bottle of whisky was sealed in the walls of the First Presbyterian Church in Waterloo, Iowa, when the structure was built thirty years ago, bidding is expected to be high and fast at the auction sale for the building this week.

Persons who have charge of the sale are wondering if they can dispose of the church legally under the Volstead act. A new church is under construction and will be finished in two days. Architects who built the old church say a workman was in the habit of bringing a bottle of whisky to work every day. One lunch hour a fellow laborer buried his bottle with mortar and sealed it in the stone wall.

COMMERCE MINISTER LIKELY.

Spain Considers Establishment of
Separate Portfolio.

MADRID, Dec. 26.—Consideration is being given by the members of the Cabinet to a tentative proposition relative to the formation of a Ministry of Commerce, entirely separated from the Ministry of Works, which at the present time has supervision over commercial interests.

The rupture of commercial relations with France, with the ensuing negotiations for a new agreement, which are about to begin, and also the possibility of similar complications with other nations in consequence of the application of higher customs duties, have combined to emphasize the need for the establishment of a separate Ministry.

GUATEMALA FAVORS UNION.

Delegate Is Named to Convention
in Honduras in February.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—According to official advice from Guatemala received here to-day the National Assembly has ratified "in principle" the pact providing for the creation of a Central American union.

Signor Marcial Prem, a distinguished lawyer, was named delegate to the convention, which will meet in February at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, the dispatch said. He succeeds Vicente Martinez, who held that post under the Herrera regime, which was overthrown by the recent Guatemalan revolution.

40,000,000 GALLONS IN UNCLE SAM'S CELLAR

Drys Long to Get Rid of It
but Don't Know How.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Dec. 26.

The beginning of the third year of constitutional prohibition in January will find more than 40,000,000 gallons of whisky, gin, wines and other liquors in storage in Government warehouses, official reports of the Federal prohibition unit showed to-day. Holdings of bonded liquor totaled nearly twice this amount

when constitutional prohibition became effective.

Drys contend that the bonded liquor constitutes the greatest bar to the achievement of 100 per cent. prohibition. Officials of the Anti-Saloon League are anxiously casting about for some method of getting rid of bonded booze. Many schemes have been suggested, but most of them have had to be abandoned because of the belief that they could not win the approval of Congress.

Congress, though predominantly dry, would hesitate to pass any measure, dry leaders feel, that would force the Government to reimburse the owners of this liquor for its confiscation and destruction. That would cause a serious drain on the Treasury at a time when every effort is being made to limit expenditure.

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